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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Shuichi FURUYA et al..  
Title: NITROGEN-CONTAINING HETEROCYCLIC  
COMPOUNDS, THEIR PRODUCTION AND USE  
Prior Appl. No.: 09/711,139  
Prior Appl. Filing Date: November 14, 2000  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments to the claims and the specification.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 1, below the title of the invention, please insert ~~This is a divisional~~  
application of U.S. Application No. 09/711,139, which is a divisional application of U.S.  
Application No. 09/147,616, now U.S. Patent 6,194,149 B1, which was a §371 application of  
PCT/JP98/05841, the entirety of each application being incorporated by reference.--

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Cancel claims 23-29, 31-37 and 39, add new claims 40-44, and substitute for claims 1  
and 30 the following amended claims. The changes made to the amended claims are explicitly  
shown in the attached "Marked-Up Version of the Amended Claims."

1. (Once Amended) A compound of the formula (I)

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Sub  
B1

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